

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

AFV REPORT

FISCAL YEAR

1999



**U.S. Department of Commerce
Fleet AFV Report for Fiscal Year 1999
November 30, 1999**

This is the *U.S. Department of Commerce Fleet Alternative Fuel Vehicle (AFV) Report for FY 1999*. The report has been developed in accordance with the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (Public Law (P.L.) 102-486), as amended by the Energy Conservation Reauthorization Act of 1998 (P.L. 105-388) (ECRA).

For 1999, the Department acquired 73 AFVs qualifying for credits out of a total 130 “covered” vehicles bought or leased during the year. “Covered” vehicles, subject to P.L. 102-486 requirements, are described below. Detailed vehicle acquisition tables are shown on Attachment A.

Legislative Requirements

P.L. 102-486 requires that 75 percent of all covered light-duty vehicles acquired for Federal fleets in FY 1999 and beyond be AFVs (where the fleets have 20 or more light duty vehicles, are capable of being centrally fueled, and are located in a metropolitan statistical area with a population of more than 250,000 based on the 1980 census). Certain emergency, law enforcement, and national defense vehicles are exempt from these requirements. P.L. 102-486 also sets a goal of using replacement fuels to displace at least 30 percent of the projected consumption of motor fuel in the United States annually by the year 2010. The Energy Conservation and Reauthorization Act of 1998 amended P.L. 102-486 to allow one alternative fuel vehicle acquisition credit for every 450 gallons of pure biodiesel fuel consumed in vehicles over 8,500 pounds gross vehicle weight rating. “Biodiesel credits” may fulfill up to 50 percent of an agency’s P.L. 102-486 requirements. The head of each Federal agency must also prepare and submit an annual report to Congress outlining the agency’s AFV acquisitions and future plans.

Department of Commerce Fleet and Reporting Compliance for FY 1999

In FY 1999, the DOC fleet did not achieve the AFV 75 percent acquisition requirement set forth in P.L. 102-486. We continue to experience difficulty in the acquisition and use of AFVs. These issues include the following: high incremental cost of certain AFV models, limited access to alternative fuel infrastructure and service in certain areas, and inadequate information on available AFVs.

The Department of Commerce acquired 130 covered light-duty vehicles in FY 1999. Attachment A provides detailed information on the number of vehicles leased or purchased by the Department of Commerce in FY 1999.

The Department of Energy (DOE) and the General Services Administration (GSA) developed a computer system, Federal Automotive Statistical Tool (FAST), that would allow all federal agencies to accomplish the required data gathering and prepare the required reports in a standardized format. DOE planned to forward all agency reports to Congress. Due to administrative and technical problems with the FAST system, DOE did not transmit the reports for fiscal years 1999, 2000, and 2001, causing federal agencies to be noncompliant with the law.

Consequently, Earthjustice, on behalf of the Center for Biological Diversity, the Bluewater Network, and the Sierra Club, filed a lawsuit against 18 federal agencies for noncompliance with Public Law 102-486. The U. S. District Court for the Northern District of California, ruled that all overdue (FY 1999, FY2000, and FY 2001) AFV reports must be forwarded to Congress by November 26, 2002. The court ruling further requires that the reports be posted on each agency's website by January 31, 2003, with notice of availability of the reports to be published in the Federal Register by the same date. We are on target to meet the January deadline.

Actuals Department of Commerce FY 1999 Vehicle Acquisitions

Actuals FY 1999 Light-Duty Vehicle Acquisitions				
	Leased	Purchased	Total	
Total number of Light-Duty (8,500 GVWR) - Vehicle Acquisitions	167	3	170	1,976
Exemptions	Fleet Size	0	0	0
	Geographic	32	0	1,239
	Law Enforcement	8	8	171
	Non-MSA Operation	0	0	0
EPACT Covered Acquisitions	127	3	130	566
Actuals FY 1999 AFV Acquisitions				Total Vehicle Inventory
Vehicle	Leased	Purchased	Total	
Sedan CNG Bi-Fuel Compact	0	0	0	0
Sedan E-85 Flex-Fuel Midsize	1	0	1	1
St. Wagon CNG Bi-Fuel Compact	0	0	0	0
Pickup 4x2 E-85 Flex-Fuel Compact Ext Cab	0	0	0	0
Pickup 4x2 CNG Bi-Fuel Full-size Reg Cab	1	0	1	16
Pickup 4x4 E-85 Flex-Fuel Compact Ext Cab	0	0	0	0
Pickup 4x4 CNG Bi-Fuel Full-size Ext Cab	0	0	0	0
SUV 4x4 2dr CNG Bi-Fuel Compact	0	0	0	0
Van 4x2 E-85 Flex-Fuel Compact	0	0	0	0
Van 4x2 M-85 Flex-Fuel Compact	70	0	70	71
Van 4x2 CNG Dedicated Large	1	0	1	22
Total Number of AFV Acquisitions	73	0	73	110
Zero Emission Vehicle Credits	0	0	0	
Dedicated Light-Duty AFV Credits	0	0	0	
Dedicated Medium-Duty AFV Credits	0	0	0	
Dedicated Heavy-Duty AFV Credits	0	0	0	
Biodiesel Fuel Usage Credits - Actuals			0	
Total AFV Acquisitions with Credits	73	0	73	
AFV Percentage of Covered Light-Duty Vehicle Acquisition			56%	